

EDWARD WILLIAMS III,

Plaintiff,

v.

ARTHUR SICIAK,

Defendant.

The Motion does not identify the specific insurance carrier(s) Defendant is asking be excused. However, the undersigned will interpret this representation to mean that the participation of any insurance carrier for

Defendant would be unnecessary since NCDPS will be responsible for any settlement payment that may be due on Defendant's behalf. Therefore, to the extent the Motion pertains to a representative of Defendant's insurance carrier(s), it will be allowed and such representative(s) will be excused.

With respect to Defendant himself, however, while NCDPS may have the authority to negotiate and enter a binding settlement on his behalf, as a party to the case Defendant has a vested interest in the matter and the undersigned otherwise believes Defendant's personal participation in the conference may be beneficial. Further, as Defendant may participate via phone from any location, provided that he and his attorney use the same conference line, as described in the undersigned's Order of June 24, the disruption to Defendant's schedule should not be excessive. The Motion will therefore be denied as to Defendant.

Accordingly, Defendant's Motion to Excuse Attendance of Individual Defendants (Doc. 54) is **GRANTED IN PART** and **DENIED IN PART** as stated.

It is so ordered.

Signed: July 7, 2021



W. Carleton Metcalf
United States Magistrate Judge

